

JOHN CURTIS PARCELL AND ESTHER LEWIS HERBERT



John Curtis Parcell was born September 10, 1825, in Onvell, Cambridge, England, son of Elijah Parcell and Elizabeth Curtis. He died January 25, 1890, and is buried in Wallsburg. His wife, Esther Herbert Parcell, died April 28, 1899.

John came to Utah in 1854, in Captain Bullock's company. He had been married to Mary Kellogg in England and they had one son, Joseph Kellogg Parcell, who was born December 17, 1854, in Provo. John and Mary were divorced.

Esther Lewis Herbert, who was born June 10, 1817, at Mitchel-Troy, Monmouth, England, daughter of James Lewis and Esther Simmons or Symonds, and her husband, Thomas Rowland Herbert, son of Isaac Herbert, were also coming to Utah in this same company. Thomas and Esther were the parents of five children: James, Isaac, Emily, Mary and Esther.

In 1849, Thomas and Esther were baptized members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. They immigrated to America and started across the plains.

Thomas became ill in Council Bluffs, Iowa,

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of cholera and died there. Being a wheelwright by trade, he carried his tools with him in a large box. Esther took the tools out of this box so her husband could be buried in it. This was in July, 1852. On returning to her wagon, after her husband's funeral, Esther found someone had taken her tools. They never were found.

John Parcell and Esther were married in 1854. They had a farm where later the old Brigham Young Academy (now high school) was and he raised sheep in Provo Canyon. He also was in charge of the toll gate in Provo Canyon, where he collected the fee charged those going through the canyon during the 1870s. The money collected was used to do repair work on the road, so it would be in shape for traveling.

Later they moved to Wallsburg, where they had a fine farm and raised cattle and sheep.

John was a staunch Church worker and took part in civic affairs in Wallsburg.

Esther was a splendid companion to her husband and family.

John Curtis and Esther were the parents of: Elizabeth, Martha and John Lewis.